



The Surface Warship Association



This year the S.W.A. was at Alexandra Palace as usual and had fourteen warships on show on a stand dressed with handsome blue tablecloths, white ensigns and Association flag-banners.

The Association stewards had come from as far as Switzerland and Cornwall and were Philip Bellamy, Pete Stern with his 1/24 HMS Brave Borderer up on the plinth and 1/32 Fairmile B which won the European gold medal, Gordon Tiley from Camborne with his 1/128 HMS Rodney, 1/128 IJN heavy cruiser, 1/128 HMS Hood, Monty Chappell with his 1/72 HMS Bluebell and Jeff Carter with USS Maine at 1/96 and Fairmile D MGB 660 at 1/32. John Coster had HMS Brave Borderer at 1/32, CMB 40ft at 1/40, Elco 80ft at 1/35 and HMS Dolphin Levant Schooner Flotilla no. 8 at 1/24. Finally in memory of Hilary Breeze there were his Fairmile D MTB 777 at 1/24 and PT 109 at 1/35.

Philip was advising Gordon with the problems with electrics/electronics on Rodney and is also available to help any members with propeller, shaft, coupling, motor, electronic speed controller and battery matters. I have since heard that the advice has worked with the systems working again- motors, speed controllers and forward turrets' rotation.

The show was well attended with numbers up on last year and all stewards were ready and willing to advise the people about scale model warships and we also made contact with several members of the Association. The sad absence of Hilary and Pete Revill was felt deeply as they have both attended every exhibition since they began and both have died this year.

Meridienne Exhibitions have given the Association a cheque for £65 for our efforts in attending the exhibition. If you would like to be there next January please contact John Coster.